



English 271/272 Syllabus

Expository Writing I and II

1082B/1086B 2013 Summer

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Canvas site: <https://bc.instructure.com/courses/829960>

Course Information

The primary goal of this course is to help you further develop the writing skills you've learned in previous English classes. To do so, we will work on identifying our intentions and goals as writers, tailoring our work to reach specific audiences, and exploring ways to clearly explain and express our ideas to our readers.

In order to provide a context for this work, we will focus our efforts on exploring a type of expository writing called memoir. Questions explored will include, but are not limited to: What stories do we as writers want to tell? How can we effectively communicate those stories to different audiences? How do we decide what information to include and what to leave out?

To help investigate these questions, we will spend the first half of the course developing an understanding of memoir as a genre, while the second half will allow you to write a memoir of your own.

You may have also noticed that our class is a combination class, in that we have folks in both English 271 and 272 with us. Readings and weekly Canvas assignments for both classes will be the same, but folks in 272 will be expected to write a longer final paper.

Course Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Identify implicitly and explicitly one's intentions as a writer
- Define implicitly and explicitly one's intentions as a writer
- Apply appropriate style, tone, and format to the writers' purpose and audience
- Demonstrate practical uses and applications for exposit writing beyond the classroom

Books and Materials Required

Goodwin, Doris Kearns. Wait Till Next Year. © 1997 Required

We will use this book to help guide our discussions of memoir as a genre.

Zinsser, William. On Writing Well. © 2006 Required

As with the Goodwin book, we will use Zinsser's ideas to help guide our discussions of writing and prose.

Grading

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|----------------------------|-----|
| Memoir focus assignment | 20 |
| Memoir outline assignment | 20 |
| First draft | 40 |
| Final draft | 50 |
| Canvas discussion postings | 120 |
| Total | 250 |

Memoir Assignments

The focus of this course is on memoir. As such, each of you will be asked to write one (1) substantial memoir over the course of the term.

Because writing a memoir can often feel overwhelming, we will take a step-by-step approach to completing it; this means we will dedicate time to coming up with the focus of your memoir, creating an outline, writing a first draft, and writing a final draft.

I will provide detailed instructions and guidelines for each step closer to their due dates.

Canvas Discussion Postings (CDPs) (bellevuecollege.edu/canvas)

Because this course is an online course, we will rely heavily on Canvas to share ideas and discuss weekly readings. To help guide these discussions, I will post specific questions to Canvas based on the readings due the following week. You are then asked to respond to the questions using a combination of your own ideas and evidence from the readings.

Responses to the questions are due by 11:59pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays, as outlined on the course calendar, and should consist of at least 150 words per question.

After posting your initial response, you are also asked to respond to three (3) other students' posts. In these responses, feel free to ask questions, point out similarities and/or differences between your post and their post, or add your own thoughts to their ideas -- the overall goal is to foster discussion as if we were meeting face-to-face.

Responses to other students' posts are due by 11:59pm on Wednesdays and Fridays, and should consist of at least 150 words per response.

To give an idea of how this will work, here is the schedule for week 2 as an example:

Tuesday, July 2: Post responses to questions based on Goodwin - Preface, Ch. 1

Wednesday, July 3: Post responses to three (3) other students' posts

Thursday, July 4: Post responses to questions based on Zinsser - Ch. 1-4

Friday, July 5: Post responses to three (3) other students' posts

Overall, posts will be graded a scale of 0 to 10; 0 meaning you didn't complete the assignment or didn't respond to any other students, and 10 meaning you clearly answered the prompts with strong supporting evidence and responded to three other students.

Late Work

Work must be turned in on time. Late work is accepted with a penalty only under special circumstances as determined by the instructor.

The link to the College Grading Policy is located on page 10 of the Course Catalog and also on the web at: http://bellevuecollege.edu/policies/3/3000_grading.asp.

Course Calendar

Please note that this schedule is subject to change. However, I will make every effort to inform you of any changes that occur.

Also, please note that I have not included the CDPs under the Assignments columns.

| Week | Dates | Readings due | 271 assignments | 272 assignments |
|------|-------|--------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1 | 6/25 | | Introductions | Introductions |
| 1 | 6/27 | Zinsser - Ch. 14, 22 | | |
| 2 | 7/2 | Goodwin - Preface, Ch. 1 | | |

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|---|------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 2 | 7/4 | Zinsser - Ch. 1-4 | Memoir - Focus | Memoir - Focus |
| 3 | 7/9 | Goodwin - Ch. 2, 3 | | |
| 3 | 7/11 | Zinsser - Ch. 5-7 | | |
| 4 | 7/16 | Goodwin - Ch. 4, 5 | | |
| 4 | 7/18 | Zinsser - Ch. 8-10 | Memoir - Outline | Memoir - Outline |
| 5 | 7/23 | Goodwin - Ch. 6, 7 | | |
| 5 | 7/25 | Zinsser - Ch. 20, 21 | Memoir - First draft | Memoir - First draft |
| 6 | 7/30 | Goodwin - Epilogue | | |
| 6 | 8/1 | Zinsser - Ch. 23, 25 | | |
| 7 | 8/6 | Zinsser - Ch. 22 | | |
| 7 | 8/8 | | Memoir - Final draft | Memoir - Final draft |

Affirmation of Inclusion: Bellevue College is committed to maintaining an environment in which every member of the campus community feels welcome to participate in the life of the college, free from harassment and discrimination. We value our different backgrounds at Bellevue College, and students, faculty, staff members, and administrators are to treat one another with dignity and respect. <http://bellevuecollege.edu/about/goals/inclusion.asp>

Arts & Humanities Division Policy Regarding Values Conflicts: Essential to a liberal arts education is an open-minded tolerance for ideas and modes of expression that might conflict with one's personal values. By being exposed to such ideas or expressions, students are not expected to endorse or adopt them but rather to understand that they are part of the free flow of information upon which higher education depends. To this end, you may find that class requirements may include engaging certain materials, such as books, films, and art work, which may, in whole or in part, offend you. These materials are equivalent to required texts and are essential to the course content. If you decline to engage the required material by not reading, viewing, or performing material you consider offensive, you will still be required to meet class requirements in order to earn credit. This may require responding to the content of the material, and you may not be able to fully participate in required class discussions, exams, or assignments.

Student Code: "Cheating, stealing and plagiarizing (using the ideas or words of another as one's own without crediting the source) and inappropriate/disruptive classroom behavior are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue College. Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to: talking out of turn, arriving late or leaving early without a valid reason, allowing cell phones/pagers to ring, and inappropriate behavior toward the instructor or classmates. The instructor can refer any violation of the Student Code of Conduct to the Vice President of Student Services for possible probation or suspension from Bellevue College. Specific student rights, responsibilities and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct, available in the office of the Vice President of Student Services." The Student Code, Policy 2050, in its entirety is located at: [http://bellevuecollege.edu/policies/2/2050 Student Code.asp](http://bellevuecollege.edu/policies/2/2050%20Student%20Code.asp)

Important Links

Bellevue College E-mail and access of MyBC

All students registered for classes at Bellevue College are entitled to a network and e-mail account. Your student network account can be used to access your student e-mail, log in to computers in labs and classrooms, connect to the BC wireless network and log in to MyBC. To create your account, go to: <https://bellevuecollege.edu/sam>.

BC offers a wide variety of computer and learning labs to enhance learning and student success. Find current campus locations for all student labs by visiting <http://depts.bellevuecollege.edu/helpdesk/students/computerlabs/>

Disability Resource Center

The Disability Resource Center serves students with a wide array of learning challenges and disabilities. If you are a student who has a disability or learning challenge for which you have documentation or have seen someone for treatment and if you feel you may need accommodations in order to be successful in college, please contact us as soon as possible.

If you are a person who requires assistance in case of an emergency situation, such as a fire, earthquake, etc, please meet with your individual instructors to develop a safety plan within the first week of the quarter.

The DRC office is located in B 132 or you can call our reception desk at 425.564.2498. Deaf students can reach us by video phone at 425-440-2025 or by TTY at 425-564-4110. . . Please visit our website for application information into our program and other helpful links at www.bellevuecollege.edu/drc

Public Safety

The Bellevue College (BC) Public Safety Department's well trained and courteous non-commissioned staff provides personal safety, security, crime prevention, preliminary investigations, and other services to the campus community, 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Their phone number is 425.564.2400. The Public Safety website is your one-stop resource for campus emergency preparedness information, campus closure announcements and critical information in the event of an emergency. Public Safety is located in K100 and on the web at: <http://bellevuecollege.edu/publicsafety/>

Academic Calendar

The Bellevue College Academic Calendar is separated into two calendars. They provide information about holidays, closures and important enrollment dates such as the finals schedule.

- Enrollment Calendar - <http://bellevuecollege.edu/enrollment/calendar/deadlines/>. On this calendar you will find admissions and registration dates and important dates for withdrawing and receiving tuition refunds.
- College Calendar - <https://bellevuecollege.edu/enrollment/calendar/holidays/1213.asp>
View the academic year at a glance including quarter start and end times, holidays, closures and final exam times.